

Weekly Views

Be informed about the Indiana Department of Correction

*"Being good is commendable, but only when it is combined with doing good is it useful."
~Author Unknown*

Friday, July 31, 2009

Kentucky Department of Correction officials met with IDOC staff to review our re-entry work and initiate a partnership. They toured the Plainfield Re-Entry Educational Facility and learned about the re-entry process and programming.

Wabash Valley held a graduation ceremony for 57 GED students, 50 vocational students, 27 Associate's Degree students, and 17 Bachelor's Degree students. Indiana State University Associate Dean, Dr. Harriet Hudson spoke at the event.

IDOC employees attended the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice's 36th Annual Conference & Training Institute in Little Rock, AR. Attendees were able to network and receive training credits on various topics addressing many of the pressing issues that are affecting corrections on a federal, state and global level.

Four offenders completed First Aid and CPR certification for their apprenticeship at Madison Correctional Facility.

This weekend, PREF will hold its 6th Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program (PREP) weekend for incarcerated residents and their significant others. The event focuses on building stronger, healthier relationships.

Faculty from Ivy Tech Community College recently gave a presentation to Camp Summit students about enrollment procedures, financial aid, courses available, class scheduling, cost of college, and transfers to other colleges.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility Shifting Gears bicycle refurbishing operation recently donated two reconditioned bikes to Helping Homeless Veterans and Families and one bicycle to the VA Domiciliary in Indianapolis.

Miami Correctional Facility's CLIFF Unit hosted its first Family Day seminar recently. 6 offenders, with two family members each, attended. They spent the day discussing addiction and how to prepare for the offender's re-entry.

Plainfield Re-Entry Educational Facility has donated 8,875 pounds of produce to charities this season.

The Wabash Valley PLUS Unit made and donated banners and quilts for the Marshall County 4-H Beef Club's silent auction, netting the youngsters \$331 for much needed projects and improvements.

Miami Correctional Facility employees Sgt. Frank Kaicy, Katherine O'Dell, Kim Smith, and Ann Hubbard assisted a driver, whose truck load of hay caught on fire, by calling authorities and helping the driver exit the vehicle.

Lt. Sizemore coordinated the harvesting of vegetables from the Organic Garden and Apprenticeship Garden at the Indiana State Prison. The vegetables were donated to Disciples Church, Stepping Stones Women's Shelter, St. Paul's Lutheran Church and St. Stanislaus Roman Catholic Church for their soup kitchens.

Correctional Industrial Facility recently held a golf tournament in Anderson, IN, raising \$1,017 for the Special Olympics.

Recently, 41 members of Agape Choir performed at Camp Summit. The Choir performed a capella style for the entire student population. The program also included selecting student volunteers to sing along with the choir.

During a Pendleton Correction Facility staff assembly, Superintendent Brett Mize recognized Sandy Sidwell as Employee of the Quarter and Karl Downey as Supervisor of the Quarter. Dr. Lorenzo Eli and Carrie Johnson also received plaques.

Correctional Industrial Facility has delivered over 300 pounds of fresh garden vegetables to the Anderson Christian Center. The vegetables included radishes, onions, zucchini, squash and cucumbers.

Indiana State Prison Recreational Work Leader Brudnell Bradley presented Michigan City Women's Shelter Director Gerry Jones with a check for \$402.17. The donation came from the proceeds of Minimum Security Unit food sale.

PEN Industries at Westville added a Tire Recapping Shop and has hired 30 offender workers, with 30 more to be added.

10,490 White Castle sandwiches were sold at Correctional Industrial Facility, raising \$1,797 for The Villages.

Branchville Correctional Facility held its annual Therapeutic Community ceremony this week for the 92 offenders who completed the program, and 10 family members attended the ceremony. The Honorable Judge Wayne Trockman spoke and received a certificate of appreciation for his help and commitment to the Incarceration with a Purpose program.

From the Office of Edwin G. Buss, Commissioner